1. Artificial disc replacement (ADR) apparatus, comprising:

an endplate that articulates with a cooperating component; and

wherein the endplate, or the endplate and the cooperating component, are physically configured for assembly within an intervertebral disc space.

2. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the endplate, or the endplate and the cooperating component, are composed of dissimilar materials.

3. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the endplate is composed of Nitinol or other shape-memory material.

4. The ADR apparatus of claim 3, wherein the Nitinol or other shape-memory material is used to form projections that diverge or converge after insertion in the disc space.

5. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the endplate includes an articulating component composed of chrome cobalt or another metal alloy.

6. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein the endplate is provided as two separate components that are physically configured for assembly within an intervertebral disc space.

7. The ADR apparatus of claim 5, wherein each of the separate components are press-fit into a vertebral body.

8. The ADR apparatus of claim 5, wherein the separate components are connected through a snap-fit engagement.

9. The ADR apparatus of claim 5, wherein the separate components are 2 connected through a hinge.

10. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
2 the endplate includes an articulating component that is treaded into the endplate.

11. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
2 the endplate includes an articulating component that is press-fit into the endplate.

12. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
2 the endplate includes an articulating component that is press-fit through a Morse-taper type joint.

13. The ADR apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cooperating component is a 2 spacer.

14. The ADR apparatus of claim 13, wherein the spacer is rotated or otherwise 2 manipulated to achieve a vertebral distraction function.

15. The ADR apparatus of claim 13, wherein the spacer is contained within a 2 disc space using a clip or other retaining element.

16. The ADR apparatus of claim 13, wherein the spacer is contained within a 2 disc space using a clip or other retaining element.

17. The ADR apparatus of claim 13, wherein the spacer is contained within a 2 disc space using a mesh or elastic component.

18. A method of implanting an artificial disc replacement (ADR) into an intervertebral disc space, comprising the steps of:

providing an endplate constructed from first and second components;

installing the first component into an intervertebral disc space; and

installing the second component into the disc space by attaching the second component to the first component, thereby assembling the endplate *in situ*.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the first and second components are comprised of dissimilar materials.

20. The method of claim 18, further including a spacer component which is also assembled *in situ*.

21. A method of implanting an artificial disc replacement (ADR) into an intervertebral disc space, comprising the steps of:

providing an endplate constructed from first and second components;

installing the first component into an intervertebral disc space; and

installing the second component into the disc space by attaching the second component to the first component, thereby assembling the endplate *in situ*.